

MINUTES

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Ladislaus B. Dombrowski Board Room
John A. Hannah Building
608 West Allegan
Lansing, Michigan

December 17, 2013
9:30 a.m.

Present: Mr. Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman
Mr. John C. Austin, President
Dr. Casandra E. Ulbrich, Vice President
Mr. Daniel Varner, Secretary
Dr. Richard Zeile, Treasurer
Ms. Michelle Fecteau, NASBE Delegate
Ms. Lupe Ramos-Montigny
Mrs. Kathleen N. Straus
Mrs. Eileen Weiser (via telephone)
Mr. Craig Ruff, representing Governor Rick Snyder, ex officio

Also Present: Mr. Gary Abud, Jr., 2013-2014 Michigan Teacher of the Year

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flanagan called the meeting to order at 9:59 a.m.

II. INFORMATIONAL FOLDER ITEMS

- A. Information on Nominations to the Special Education Advisory Committee (SEAC) Memorandum dated December 17, 2013
- B. Information on the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification Three-Year Cumulative Report for 2010-2013 Memorandum dated December 17, 2013

III. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND ORDER OF PRIORITY

Mr. Austin moved, seconded by Mr. Varner, that the State Board of Education approve the agenda and order of priority.

The vote was taken on the motion.

**Ayes: Austin, Fecteau, Ramos-Montigny, Straus, Ulbrich,
Varner, Zeile**
Absent: Weiser

The motion carried.

IV. INTRODUCTION OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Mrs. Marilyn Schneider, State Board Executive, introduced members of the State Board of Education and the Michigan Teacher of the Year.

Mrs. Weiser joined the meeting via telephone at 10:05 a.m.

V. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN

Mr. Flanagan shared a video of his grandson.

Mr. Flanagan said the Department is working on a structure of additional options for schools that are placed in the State School Reform/Redesign District. Mr. Flanagan said currently the Education Achievement Authority is the only option to operate schools placed in the State School Reform/Redesign District and there should be other options such as intermediate school districts or other local school districts. Discussion followed.

Mr. Austin suggested that further discussion occur later in the meeting.

VI. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 10:34 a.m.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

VII. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Flanagan called the Committee of the Whole Meeting to order at 10:35 a.m.

VIII. PRESENTATION ON RACE TO THE TOP EARLY LEARNING CHALLENGE

Ms. Susan Broman, Deputy Superintendent, Office of Great Start; and Mr. Jeremy Reuter, Special Assistant, Office of Great Start; presented Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge.

Mr. Flanagan said The Race to the Top Early Learning Challenge grant application is focused on improving early learning and development programs for young children by supporting states' efforts to: (1) increase the number and percentage of low-income and disadvantaged children in each age group of infants, toddlers, and preschoolers who are enrolled in high-quality early learning programs; and (2) design and implement an integrated system of high-quality early learning programs and services.

Mr. Flanagan said Michigan was eligible to apply for \$52.5 million in funding over a four-year implementation window. Ms. Broman said award recipients are expected to be announced by December 19, 2013.

Ms. Broman said the ambitious yet achievable goals for the grant include: increasing access to high-quality early learning for children with high needs, professional development for early learning staff, increased data capacity to assess programs' value to children and families, and ensuring families are engaged and understand their child's development including the importance of health and development.

Information was shared via a [PowerPoint](#) presentation and video.

Board member discussion included participation and choice of child care options, funding targeted to systems impacting children and scholarships, supplementation of services, interagency organization coordination and collaboration, quality early childhood as a priority for several years, transient students, state policies to advance early childhood education, and a culture of reading.

IX. REPORT ON OPTIONS FOR ASSESSMENTS ALIGNED WITH THE COMMON CORE STATE STANDARDS

Dr. Joseph Martineau, Deputy Superintendent, Accountability Services; and Dr. Vince Dean, Director, Office of Standards and Assessment; presented the Report on Options for Assessments Aligned with the Common Core State Standards.

Mr. Flanagan said the final resolution from the Legislature permitting the Michigan Department of Education to proceed with implementation of the Common Core State Standards required the development of a report on all assessment options aligned with these career and college ready standards. He said the report was submitted on the due date, December 1.

Dr. Martineau and Dr. Dean presented information consisting of an overview of the report structure and development process, key findings and recommendations, and implications for the Department and Michigan's system of statewide assessments.

Information was shared via a [PowerPoint](#) presentation.

Board member discussion included working across party lines, meeting difficult deadlines, future presentation to the Legislature, the difference between membership organizations and companies, teachers involved in development of assessments, screening for biased questions, and teacher evaluation implementation timeline.

X. RECESS

The Board recessed the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 12:16 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting at 1:29 p.m.

Mr. Ruff left the meeting at 1:25 p.m.

REGULAR MEETING

XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING

1. Ms. Tracy Peters, Detroit, Michigan. Ms. Peters shared verbal comments on the Education Achievement Authority.
2. Ms. Maiyoua Vang, Dearborn, Michigan. Ms. Vang shared a video by Mercedes Schneider on the Achievement District.
3. Ms. Karran Harper Royal shared verbal comments and written information regarding the Education Achievement Authority.
4. Mr. Victor B. Gibson, Detroit, Michigan. Mr. Gibson provided verbal comments on the Education Achievement Authority.
5. Ms. Helen Moore, Detroit, Michigan. Ms. Moore, representing Keep the Vote, provided verbal comments on the Education Achievement Authority.
6. Mr. Tony Baker, Grand Rapids, Michigan. Mr. Baker provided verbal comments and written information on the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification for adult students.
7. Ms. Elizabeth Larwa, Brighton, Michigan. Ms. Larwa provided verbal comments regarding the Next Generation Science Standards.
8. Mr. Al Chapple, Midland, Michigan. Mr. Chapple provided verbal comments regarding the Next Generation Science Standards.
9. Ms. Hannah Miller, Lansing, Michigan. Ms. Miller provided verbal comments regarding the Next Generation Science Standards.
10. Ms. Wendy Johnson, Clarksville, Michigan. Ms. Johnson provided verbal comments regarding the Next Generation Science Standards.
11. Ms. Allison Freed, Bancroft, Michigan. Ms. Freed provided verbal comments regarding the Next Generation Science Standards.
12. Mr. Tim Fischer, Lansing, Michigan. Mr. Fischer, representing the Michigan Environmental Council, provided verbal comments regarding the Next Generation Science Standards. Mr. Fischer provided 6,000 signatures supporting the Next Generation Science Standards.
13. Mr. Paul Drummond, Waterford, Michigan. Mr. Drummond, representing Square One Education Network, provided verbal comments regarding the Next Generation Science Standards.

14. Ms. Robby Cramer, Grand Haven, Michigan. Ms. Cramer, representing the Michigan Science Teachers Association, provided verbal comments regarding the Next Generation Science Standards.
15. Ms. Sarah Stapleton, Lansing, Michigan. Ms. Stapleton provided verbal comments regarding the Next Generation Science Standards.
16. Mr. Tom Pedroni, Detroit, Michigan. Mr. Pedroni provided verbal comments regarding the Education Achievement Authority.

XII. PERSONAL PRIVILEGE – MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN

Mr. Flanagan asked the Deputy Superintendents to introduce new employees.

Dr. Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent, Education Services, introduced Ms. Natasha Baker, Office of Education Improvement and Innovation; and Ms. Louanna Hovorka, Office of Career and Technical Education.

Ms. Susan Broman, Deputy Superintendent, Office of Great Start, introduced Ms. Kaitlin Ferrick, Head Start State Collaboration Office.

Ms. Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent, Administrative and Supportive Services, introduced Ms. Emily Purves, Office of School Support Services.

XIII. RECESS

The Board recessed the Regular Meeting at 2:31 p.m. to reconvene the Committee of the Whole Meeting.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

XIV. PRESENTATION ON MICHIGAN STUDENT DATA PROJECT

Dr. Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent, Education Services; and Ms. Linda Forward, Director, Education Improvement and Innovation; presented on the Michigan Student Data Project.

Mr. Flanagan said in the past few years, the educational community has taken steps to improve the level of education for Michigan's students. He said the Michigan Merit Curriculum and Exam, new standards for English Language Arts and Math, new cut scores to align with Career and College Ready expectations, and educator evaluation are just a few examples.

Mr. Flanagan said we have heard from classroom teachers and other educators from across the state about the changes and the role that

each will play in developing the education system Michigan needs to move forward. Mr. Flanagan said we have not heard the voice of the student in any systemic way. He said Department staff in conjunction with the MSU K-12 Outreach Program and the Harrison Group have undertaken a study to find out what the students have to say.

Information was shared via a [PowerPoint](#) presentation and video.

Board member discussion included the importance of relationships between students and staff, growth mindset coming from a place of abundance, funding sources, formal mechanisms including students in governance, student representation at the board table, student perceptions of standardized tests, and collection of data.

XV. DISCUSSION REGARDING CRITERIA FOR GRANT PROGRAMS

There were no Board member comments regarding criteria for grant programs.

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

The Board adjourned the Committee of the Whole Meeting at 3:05 p.m. and reconvened the Regular Meeting.

REGULAR MEETING

XVII. APPROVAL OF STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES

- E. Approval of Minutes of Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 19, 2013

Dr. Ulbrich moved, seconded by Mr. Austin, that the State Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular and Committee of the Whole Meeting of November 19, 2013.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

XVIII. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mr. Austin said he appreciated the comments regarding science standards during the public participation portion of the meeting.

Mr. Austin said based on discussion earlier in the meeting, he is asking the Board's Legislative Committee and Agenda Setting Committee to have further discussion regarding an effective turnaround strategy for chronically non-performing schools.

Mr. Austin distributed copies of "Michigan Education Organization and Finance Research Brief, Part II: State School Finance Best Practices" Mr. Austin reviewed the document and asked Board members to digest the finance documents further. He said he is looking forward to the new year and engaging education stakeholders regarding how to best spend funding to contribute to better outcomes.

XIX. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

Report

F. Human Resources Report

Grants

G. Report on Grant Awards

1. 2012-2014 Mandated Activities Under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA 2004), Part C – Amendment
2. 2012-2013 Safe and Supportive Schools Grant – Amendment
3. 2013-2014 Safe and Supportive Schools Grant – Initial
4. 2013-2014 Title II, Part A(1): Improving Teacher and Principal Quality Grant – Initial
5. 2013-2014 Secondary Perkins State Leadership Grant – Initial
6. 2012-2013 Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grant – Initial
7. 2013-2014 Mathematics and Science Centers – Initial
8. 2013-2014 Michigan Charter School Grant Program – Initial
9. 2013-2014 Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) Regional Intermediate School District (ISD) Partnership Grant– Initial
10. 2013-2014 Title I, Part D – Prevention and Intervention for Neglected and Delinquent – Initial
11. 2013-2014 Title III, Part A, English Language Acquisition Program – Initial
12. 2013-2014 Title III, Part A, Immigrant Students Program – Initial
13. 2013-2014 Title X, McKinney-Vento Homeless Students Assistance Grant – Amendment
14. 2013-2014 Title X, McKinney-Vento Homeless Students Assistance Grant – Initial

Mr. Flanagan thanked Mr. Austin for suggesting that the Board's Legislative Committee discuss an effective turnaround strategy for underperforming schools including additional entities to operate the schools.

Mr. Flanagan said it is important to continue discussion of the financial issues that Mr. Austin shared in his President's Report.

XX. STATE AND FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Mr. Martin Ackley, Director, Public and Governmental Affairs, presented the State and Federal Legislative Update.

Mr. Ackley provided an update on legislation regarding epinephrine pen usage in schools, and the OK 2 Say confidential tip line to prevent school tragedies.

Dr. Ulbrich, Chair of the Board's Legislative Committee, said the Committee met on December 10. Dr. Ulbrich said she is recommending that the full Board approve a statement on Senate Bill 74 that was discussed by the Legislative Committee.

Dr. Ulbrich moved, seconded by Ms. Fecteau, that the State Board of Education supports Senate Bill 74, a bill to amend Matt's Safe School Law to include cyberbullying as a form of bullying.

The vote was taken on the motion.

The motion carried unanimously.

Dr. Ulbrich left the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

XXI. REPORT OF MICHIGAN TEACHER OF THE YEAR

Mr. Gary Abud, Jr., 2013-2014 Michigan Teacher of the Year, presented the Report of the Michigan Teacher of the Year. He shared photos highlighting his activities over the past month serving as Michigan Teacher of the Year.

XXII. CONSENT AGENDA

- I. Approval of Criteria for the Title I, Part C Migrant Education Program Identification and Recruitment Centers Grant
- J. Approval of Criteria for the Application for School Bus Driver Safety Education Program

Mrs. Straus moved, seconded by Mr. Varner, that the State Board of Education approve the consent agenda as follows:

- I. approve the Criteria for the Title I, Part C Migrant Education Program Identification and Recruitment Centers Grant under No Child Left Behind/Elementary and Secondary Education Act, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated November 25, 2013; and**
- J. approve the Criteria for the Application for School Bus Driver Safety Education Program, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated November 25, 2013.**

Ms. Fecteau asked how grant recipients were determined for 2012-2013 Technology Readiness Infrastructure Grants (Report of the Superintendent, G. Report on Grant Awards, Number 6). She asked why some wealthier districts received grants and needier districts did not receive funding.

Dr. Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent, Education Services; Ms. Linda Forward, Director, Education Improvement and Innovation; and Mr. Bruce Umpstead, Director, Education Technology; explained that although all districts were eligible to purchase devices through a state collaborative agreement some districts chose not to participate, because they may not be at the point in a cycle to purchase devices.

The vote was taken on the motion to approve the consent agenda.

**Ayes: Austin, Fecteau, Ramos-Montigny, Straus, Varner,
Weiser, Zeile**
Absent: Ulbrich

The motion carried.

XXIII. COMMENTS BY STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBERS

Ms. Lupe Ramos-Montigny said that December 17, 2013, is the ten year anniversary of the passing of Mrs. Munoz. Ms. Ramos-Montigny said she worked closely with Mrs. Munoz who served as a grandparent volunteer in her seventh grade classroom. She said Mrs. Munoz is an example of great things that happen in public schools. She shared a picture of an angel that Mrs. Muniz gave her as a gift.

Mrs. Straus said she and Ms. Ramos-Montigny attended the Network of Michigan Educators Conference on December 5 and 6. She said the event and educators are always inspiring. Mrs. Straus said Deborah Ball, Dean of The University of Michigan School of Education, spoke at the dinner. Mrs. Ramos-Montigny said Mr. Flanagan's keynote presentation was also well received by the audience.

Ms. Fecteau said she and Dr. Zeile attended the KidSpeak event sponsored by Michigan's Children on December 10. She said the stories shared by youth were incredibly compelling including the number of times transients move and how it impacts them emotionally and academically.

Ms. Fecteau said Angelique Day, a faculty member at Wayne State University, is involved in a program focusing on youth in middle schools. She said the program involves collaboration among foster workers and caretakers to improve communication and information sharing. Ms. Fecteau requested that the program be presented at a future Board meeting.

Dr. Zeile said he is willing to represent the Board on the Rural Education Study Group hosted by the National Association of State Boards of Education, if funding is available. Mr. Flanagan said Mrs. Marilyn Schneider, State Board Executive, will provide Board members with the Board's current travel policy and available funding.

XXIV. TENTATIVE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING

Mr. Flanagan said Board members may contact a member of the Agenda Planning Committee comprised of Mr. Austin, Dr. Ulbrich and Mr. Varner with suggestions for agenda topics.

XXV. FUTURE MEETING DATES

- A. Tuesday, January 14, 2014 (9:30 a.m.)
- B. Tuesday, February 11, 2014 (9:30 a.m.)
- C. Tuesday, March 11, 2014 (9:30 a.m.)

XXVI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

The video archive of the meeting is available at www.michigan.gov/sbe.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Varner
Secretary